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HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1947

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BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1947-48

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR W. E. MARTIN.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR W. T. SMITH.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(Alderman J. J. White, J.P.)

ALDERMAN S. E. AUSTIN.

„ A. E. PETLEY.

„ THE REV. HARCOURT SAMUEL.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. BILLINGHAM.

„ F. BOWLER.

„ T. J. FOOT.

„ D. M. HUGHES.

„ J. MARTIN.

„ H. NEWBY.

„ F. J. ROGERS.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE 1947-48.

Chairman :

ALDERMAN THE REV. HARCOURT SAMUEL.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(Alderman J. J. White, J.P.)

ALDERMAN A. E. PETLEY.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. BILLINGHAM.

„ T. J. FOOT.

„ J. MARTIN.

„ W. E. MARTIN.

MISS M. A. ANDREWES, J.P.

MRS. E. SANDY.

MRS. E. K. WILKINSON.

} Co-opted
Members.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and Assistant County School Medical Officer :

J. V. Walker, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Resigned 6.9.47)

Acting Medical Officer of Health :

H. M. Cargin, M.D., D.P.H.

Dental Officer (Part-time) :

J. B. Reed, L.D.S. (Appointment terminated 31.8.47)

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

E. Young, A.R.S.I., F.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector.

Sanitary Inspectors :

F. Brown, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.A. of Scotland.

C. H. Weller, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Miss G. D. Clark, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss W. E. Carpenter, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss F. N. Everitt, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V's. Cert., R.S.I,

Mrs. E. S. G. Bell, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V's. Cert, R.S.I,

Clerical Staff :

J. S. Robertson.

R. M. Impett (Resigned 31.8.47).

Miss S. P. Smith.

R. W. Whitmore.

Miss B. O. Bush (Resigned 5.4.47).

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF RAMSGATE.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1947. Dr. J. V. Walker resigned his appointment as Medical Officer of Health to the Borough in September, and Dr. H. M. Cargin was appointed Acting Medical Officer of Health until I assumed duty in February, 1948.

General Standard of Health.

The general standard of health in the Borough for the year may be regarded as satisfactory, apart from the increase in the number of Acute Poliomyelitis and Whooping Cough cases, the total number of such cases being relatively small, show there is little variation in respect of the total number of notifications received of compulsorily notifiable diseases.

Vital Statistics.

The Birth Rate for the Borough is 21.2 per 1,000 population as compared with 22.4 for the year 1946.

The Death Rate for the year is 13.9 per 1,000 estimated population, being the same figure as that of the previous year.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 33.7 per 1,000 live births, the corresponding figure for the country as a whole being 41.0.

Housing.

The position with regard to housing in Ramsgate is, in common with many other parts of the country, presenting real difficulties. On 31st December, 1947, 3,002 applications were outstanding. Every effort is being made by the Council with the resources available to meet the situation, but it is apparent that a considerable increase in the number of houses built during the year will be necessary if the unfavourable conditions under which many of the inhabitants are living are to be remedied.

I feel my predecessor would like me, on his behalf, to express to members of the Public Health Committee his thanks for the consideration shown in all matters affecting the health of the community in Ramsgate, to officials of other Departments, and to the staff of the Public Health Department, for the assistance rendered throughout the year.

W. T. DONOVAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	4,778 acres
Population, estimated mid-year 1947	...	...	...	...	...	33,610
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books)	...	...	...	...	...	10,120
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£280,264
General Rate	...	...	...	...	...	21/-
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,100

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Town of Ramsgate is situated in the south eastern part of the Isle of Thanet, has a southerly aspect and is approximately 72 miles from London. In general, the Borough stands on high ground, has a chalk subsoil, enjoys some protection from north and east winds, and has a high sunshine and low rainfall rate. These features make the town an attractive one as a health resort for holiday makers and for permanent residence.

Many of the inhabitants are engaged directly or indirectly in meeting the requirements of the large number of visitors to the town. In addition, certain industries, such as flour milling, fishing, brewing and railway work, give employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants.

METEOROLOGY.

Meteorological observations were carried on throughout the year, twice daily telegraphic reports and monthly returns were transmitted to the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, and daily information was supplied to the Press.

The meteorological instruments are situated in Wellington Crescent. The following Table shows the total monthly sunshine and rainfall figures for 1947 :—

	Sunshine in hours	Rainfall in inches
January	65.8	0.12
February	26.9	1.6
March	83.2	3.7
April	193.2	0.71
May	214.8	1.1
June	225.0	2.75
July	228.6	2.18
August	280.6	0.39
September	194.9	0.88
October	135.9	0.31
November	64.5	1.44
December	31.9	2.7
Total	1,745.3	17.88

From the above it will be observed that the month of August had the greatest number of hours sunshine and the month of March the highest rainfall.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	Males	Females	Total
Live Births : Legitimate	386	384	770
Illegitimate	34	25	59
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			24.6
Stillbirths : Legitimate	11	7	18
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			21.2
Deaths	238	229	467
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			13.9
Deaths from puerperal causes :	Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	
Puerperal sepsis	—		—
Other maternal causes	1		1.1
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :			
Legitimate	16	10	26
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Death rate of Infants under one year of age :			
All infants per 1,000 live births			33.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...			33.7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...			33.9
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			55
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			Nil
Deaths from Scarlet Fever (all ages)			Nil
ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE			Nil

TABLE 1.
CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Male	Female
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ..	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	—	1
3.	Scarlet fever	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	1	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system ..	12	5
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	3	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases	2	1
9.	Influenza	—	—
10.	Measles	—	—
11.	Acute Polio-myelitis and polio- encephalitis	1	1
12.	Acute infective encephalitis	—	2
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	5	4
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum ..	8	3
15.	Cancer of breast	—	9
16.	Cancer of all other sites	19	17
17.	Diabetes	2	2
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions	24	32
19.	Heart disease	63	79
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	6	4
21.	Bronchitis	17	15
22.	Pneumonia	7	7
23.	Other respiratory diseases	4	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ..	6	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	8	2
28.	Nephritis	8	10
29.	Puerperal and post abortive sepsis ..	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	—	1
31.	Premature birth	5	3
32.	Congenital malformation, birth in- juries, infantile diseases	9	2
33.	Suicide	5	5
34.	Road traffic accidents	1	—
35.	Other violent causes	4	3
36.	All other causes	18	19
		238	229
		467	

TABLE 2.

**BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS
DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1947.**

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 C.B.'s and Great Towns inc. London	148 Smaller Towns. Resident Population 25,000-30,000 1931	London Administra- tive County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population				
<i>Births:—</i>				
Live Births	20.5	23.3	22.2	22.7
Still Births	0.50	0.62	0.54	0.49
<i>Deaths:—</i>				
All causes	12.0	13.0	11.9	12.8
Typhoid and Paraty- phoid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Scarlet Fever	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.0
Rates per 1,000 live births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	41	47	36	37
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	5.8	8.0	3.7	4.8
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population				
<i>Notifications:—</i>				
Typhoid Fever... ..	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever... ..	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05
Scarlet Fever	1.37	1.54	1.37	1.31
Whooping Cough	2.22	2.41	2.02	2.80
Diphtheria	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.14
Erysipelas	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.22
Small-pox	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Measles	9.41	9.13	9.58	5.29
Pneumonia	0.79	0.89	0.68	0.64
<i>(a) Notifications:—</i>				
Puerperal Fever }	7.16	8.99	6.27	1.21
Puerperal Pyrexia }				6.94

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
Abortion with sepsis ...	0.10	9
Abortion without sepsis	0.06	5
Puerperal infections ...	0.16	
Other maternal causes	0.85	

TABLE 3.
AGE AT DEATH — ALL CASES 1947.

	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	Over 65	Total
MALES ...	17	2	—	—	2	1	1	1	1	8	14	14	46	132	238
FEMALES ...	11	2	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	7	24	26	155	229

TABLE 4.
 INFANTILE DEATHS 1947. TABLE SHOWING CAUSES AND AGE AT DEATH.

Cause	Age in weeks			Total under 1 month	Age in months					Total
	0—1	1—2	2—3		3—4	1—2	2—3	3—6	6—9		9—12
Prematurity	7	—	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	4
Osteomyelitis of Skull ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Icterus Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Prolapsed Cord	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erythroblastis Foetalis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia Pallida	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Meningococcal Septicæmia...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Hæmorrhage from Intestine	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Tubercular meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Congestive condition of Lungs	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Heart	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	15	—	2	—	17	3	5	—	3	28

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (i) The personnel of the Medical, Nursing and Sanitary Staff of the Borough is incorporated at the beginning of the report.

(ii) (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The arrangements in connection with Laboratory facilities remain unchanged to those set out in the report for 1946.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

The arrangements for the use of ambulances for infectious and non-infectious cases were described in detail in the Annual Report for 1946. There were no changes during 1947.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

The Ramsgate and District Nursing Association employs two District Nurses. The Honorary Secretary of the Association has kindly supplied the following statistics on the work carried out during 1947 :—

Individual patients nursed	...	...	839
Total number of visits made	...	...	5,935
Average number of visits per patient	...	...	7.07

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The following table gives particulars of the days and times of clinics held at the Health Centre which are provided by the Kent Education Committee and the Local Authority :—

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Minor Ailment Clinic	Mon.—Fri. 9—11 a.m.	} By appoint- ment.
Dental Clinic	Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 9—12	
	Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 2—4	
Orthopaedic Clinic	Mon.—Fri. 9—12	
Ophthalmic Clinic	Mon. 9 a.m.	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICE.

Infant Welfare Clinic	Mon., Wed., Fri. 2—4 p.m.
Ante and Post Natal Clinic	Thurs. 2—4 p.m.
Dental Clinic	Tues. 9—11 a.m.
Ultra Violet Light Clinic	Tues. and Fri. 9 a.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic	Fri. 2.15 p.m.

(e) Hospitals.**General.****(a) Ramsgate General Hospital (Voluntary).**

Mr. J. Brown, Secretary of the Hospital, has kindly supplied the following information :—

IN-PATIENTS

Number admitted	...	...	...	1,895
Average length of stay of each patient				13.6 days

OUT-PATIENTS

Casualty Department	...	...	...	3,439
Medical	...	...	...	227
Surgical	...	...	...	114

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS

Gynaecological	...	...	...	279
Ophthalmic	...	...	...	248
X-ray	...	...	...	3,424
Aural	...	...	...	587
Electrical and massage	...	...	...	616
Ante-Natal	...	...	...	292
Dermatological	...	...	...	245
Urological	...	...	...	114
Neurosychiatry	...	...	...	41
Orthopaedic	...	...	...	392

(b) General Hospitals administered by the Public Assistance Committee.

Accommodation for acute and chronic sickness is provided in the General Hospitals administered by the Public Assistance Committee of the Kent County Council.

Infectious Disease Hospitals.**(a) SMALLPOX.**

Under an arrangement made with the Kent County Council, provision is made for the treatment of cases at Dislingbury Hospital. There were no cases during the year.

(b) OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases of infectious disease requiring hospitalisation are admitted to the Isle of Thanet Joint Isolation Hospital, Haine.

Maternity Hospitals.

There are no maternity hospitals in the Borough, but cases requiring hospitalisation are admitted, by arrangement with the Ramsgate General Hospital, to the maternity ward of that hospital.

2. Maternity and Child Welfare.

(i) (a) Notification of Births.

A total of 840 births were notified to the Department during the year, of which 17 were stillbirths. No difficulty was experienced with regard to notification during 1947.

Of the total notifications received, 107 were in respect of confinements taking place outside the Borough of mothers normally resident in Ramsgate.

(b) Infant Welfare Centres.

The particulars of children and mothers attending the Welfare Clinics during 1947 were as follows:—

Total number of children who first attended during the year and who on the date of their first attendance were—

Under one year of age	...	...	648
1—5 years of age	...	...	35

Total number of children who attended and who at the end of the year were:—

Under one year of age	...	...	560
1—5 years of age	...	...	815

Total attendances by children:—

Under one year of age	...	...	9,258
1—5 years of age	...	...	1,865

(c) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal Consultations:—

Number of women who attended for the first time	...	...	309
Number of women who attended	...	...	359
Total attendances	...	...	911

Post-Natal Consultations:—

Number of women who attended for the first time	...	...	24
Number of women who attended	...	...	24
Total attendances	...	...	29

(d) Dental Clinic.

Number of expectant and nursing mothers treated	143
Number of cases in which general anaesthetic for extraction was administered	59
Total teeth extracted	284
Teeth filled	57
Number of pre-school children treated	25
Number of cases in which general anaesthetic for extraction was administered	2
Temporary teeth extracted	28
Temporary teeth filled	10

(ii) Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children.

The arrangements for the institutional provision for expectant mothers, as outlined in the report for 1946, remained unchanged. The comments then made with regard to the need for additional accommodation still hold good.

(iii) Health Visitors.

The following Table gives particulars of visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year, and for comparative purposes, those paid in 1946 :—

	1947	1946
Number of infants under one year of age visited for first time	798	699
Total visits to infants under one year of age	3,089	2,836
Total visits to children 1—5 years ...	4,293	4,467
Number of expectant mothers visited ...	202	163
Total visits to expectant mothers ...	271	230

(iv) Infant Life Protecton.

The routine work described in the report for last year remains unchanged. The figures for the year under review are as follows :—

	Foster Mothers	Foster Children
No. on register 1st January ...	8	13
No. on register 31st December ...	7	9

(v) Orthopaedic Treatment.

Facilities are available at the Ramsgate General Hospital for advice and treatment of pre-school children suffering from orthopaedic defects.

The arrangement for school children include, in addition to the above, advice and treatment under the Kent Education Committee's scheme at the Health Centre, Newington Road.

(vi) Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

During the year no person gave notice under Section 7 of the above Act. The assistance of the Department was, however, sought by various bodies and individuals with regard to adoption and 8 visits were paid in this connection by the Health Visitors during 1947.

(vii) Illegitimacy.

The percentage of total births illegitimate in 1947 was 7.4 as compared with 10.4 for the previous year.

The Authority works in close co-operation with the Thanet Moral Welfare Association, and in four instances financial responsibility was accepted for admission to Homes for Unmarried Mothers.

(viii) Home and Domestic Helps.

In common with other parts of the country, difficulty has been experienced in the supply of Home and Domestic Helps, particularly during the summer season. One whole-time Home and Domestic Help was available till 6th December, after which date the Authority had to depend on casual workers. The position cannot be regarded as satisfactory.

The number of cases assisted during the year was :—

Home Help cases	...	...	...	35
Domestic Help cases	...	...	...	10

(ix) Care of Premature Infants.

The arrangements for the care of premature infants have continued throughout the year and are the same as those described in previous reports.

Eight deaths, all under one month, were attributed to prematurity, of which 6 occurred in the Ramsgate General Hospital, and 2 at home.

(x) Puerperal Mortality.

One death, which occurred in the Ramsgate General Hospital, was certified during the year as due to puerperal causes.

Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia totalled eight during 1947, six occurred at home and two in the Ramsgate General Hospital.

(xi) Supply of Milk Foods, etc.

The Welfare Authority continued to supply, at the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health, certain brands of dried milk to expectant and nursing mothers. In a few instances where the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee was satisfied as to necessity, dried milk was provided free of cost.

Cod Liver Oil, Capsules, Orange Juice and National Dried Milk were distributed from the Health Centre on behalf of the Local Food Office.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

During the year there have been no changes in the water supply in the Borough from those described in previous reports.

(1) The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory with regard to quality and quantity.

(2) Bacteriological examinations of the raw and treated water are carried out. A total of 40 samples were submitted during 1947, for bacteriological and/or chemical examination, all of which were of the standard required for a public supply.

(3) The water of Ramsgate is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

(4) Action in respect of any form of contamination was not found necessary during the year.

(5) Approximately 10,120 dwellings, with an approximate population of 33,610 was supplied direct from the mains.

During the year the water softening plant was put into operation and the water supply to the district varied between 12 to 15 degrees of hardness. The method employed has been to reduce a volume of water to zero degrees of hardness and mix it with the total bulk supply, the resultant degree of hardness being dependent upon the total quantity used.

WATER ANALYSIS.

Copy of Report on Sample of Water taken on 13th June, 1947.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear
Colour	...	...	...	...	Green-blue
Smell	...	...	...	...	Normal
Chlorine in Chlorides					14.40
Phosphoric Acid in Phosphates	...		...	...	None
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...		...	...	1.16
Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.0020
Albuminoid Ammonia	...		...	...	0.0024
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	...		...	...	Trace only
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	...		...	...	0.030
Hardness before boiling (Total)	...		...	...	31.6
Hardness after boiling (Permanent)				...	9.9
Total Solid Matter	...	...		...	64.40
Microscopical Examination of Deposit				...	Slight & unimportant
Metallic Impregnation (Copper, Lead, Zinc.)					None
Chlorine as "Salt." (Sodium Chloride)	...				23.73

Remarks.

The above results are satisfactory throughout and indicate water organically pure and free from sewage percolation.

The Microscopical Examination is also satisfactory.

The figures for "Chlorine in Chlorides," "Hardness" and "Chlorine as Salt" are all slightly lower than when last examined in January, 1947.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

The most important development has been the application by the Council to the Ministry of Health for loan consent in the sum of £63,000 for the construction of a new main trunk sewer to serve the Newington Housing Estate and the Haine area. The sewer is in tunnel and has a length of 1.9 miles. For a distance of 1,340 yards the sewer will be laid in an Air Raid Tunnel Shelter which was designed for the purpose.

About $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of sewers and drains were constructed during the year by direct labour on Units Nos. 2, 3 and 4 of the Newington Estate.

Anti-flooding valves were installed in various premises in the Denmark Road and Hereson Road areas which were liable to flooding.

The Council possess two modern "Dennis" Gully Emptiers which are available for cesspool emptying on request. The number of cesspools emptied during the year was 288. This figure cannot be regarded as satisfactory, as there are in addition a large number of cesspools which are not emptied, but from which the contents drain.

3. Rivers and Streams.

There are no rivers or streams within the Borough.

4. Public Cleansing.

Two new S.D. Freighters have been added to the Council's fleet during the year. The weight of refuse collected reached a new high level. On peak days as much as 70 tons were dealt with. The existing plant was designed to deal with a peak load of 40 tons per day. In addition the refuse collected, having a low paper and clinker content, has low combustion value. Nuisance on account of dust has been experienced in the vicinity of the Station and application has been made to the Ministry of Health for permission to construct two additional cells and a dust water trap. This will improve the position but not entirely remove the nuisance which would call for the modernisation of the existing plant.

5. Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of 414 houses on the outskirts of the Borough, all houses are connected with the water carriage system. Of these 414 houses, 354 are connected to cesspools, 55 have pail closets, 2 have chemical closets and 3 have privies.

6. Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

During 1947, 6,181 visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspectors. Information on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors, together with lists of notices served and result of such notices are included in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector which appears at the end of this report.

7. Shops Act, 1934.

Forty-one visits were paid by Sanitary Inspectors during the year. The premises were found to be satisfactory.

8. Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

The following tables give the work carried out in connection with the Factories Act, 1937 :—

TABLE 5.

INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	39	5	3	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	132	30	5	—
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	6	—	—
Total ..	181	41	8	—

TABLE 6.
CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	No of Cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage to floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes..	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	8	8	—	2	—

TABLE 7.

Nature of Work.	Section 110.			Section 111.		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel { Making. etc. Cleaning and Washing	10	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—

9. Moveable Dwellings.

There are two sites licensed for moveable dwellings and 10 visits of inspection were paid by Sanitary Inspectors during the year. These sites are provided with water supply, lavatory accommodation and washing facilities, and conditions on inspection were found to be satisfactory.

10. Smoke Abatement.

It has not been necessary to take any action during the year with regard to nuisance arising from smoke.

11. Swimming Baths and Pools.

During the season, supervision of the general sanitary conditions, and the sampling of bath water was carried out at a privately owned bathing pool in the Borough open to the public. Nine samples were taken and submitted, all of which proved to be satisfactory.

There are no publicly owned swimming baths or pools open to the public in the Borough.

12. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of the degree of infestation and action taken for the eradication of bed bugs are as follows :—

No. of houses found to be infested :—

(a) Council houses	...	...	...	7
(b) Other houses	...	...	...	6

No. of houses disinfested :—

(a) Council houses	...	...	...	7
(b) Other houses	...	...	...	6

Disinfestant smokes, sprays and powders have been employed for freeing infested houses from bed bugs.

It is recommended that consideration for the establishment of a scheme for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses.

The work of disinfesting is carried out by the Local Authority and by contractors under the supervision of the Local Authority's officers.

13. Offensive Trades.

The number of offensive trades carried on during the year in the Borough consisted of four marine stores.

The premises in each case were kept in a satisfactory manner and the businesses conducted without nuisance.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

General details with regard to inspection of dwelling houses are submitted in the following tabular form :—

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

Traditional Brick type houses	...	...	110
Prefabricated Bungalows	...	...	12

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	693
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	1,739
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	634

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	564
---	-----	-----	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	Nil
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices					Nil
(a) By owners					Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners					Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied					12
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice ...					7
(a) By owners					7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners					Nil
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made					Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders					Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made					Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit					1

Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding.

Arising out of the unsatisfactory situation in the Borough, a considerable number of properties have been sub-let, and although the permitted number of the whole premises has not in itself been exceeded, there has been a considerable amount of overcrowding in the sub-let portion of the premises.

During the year 670 complaints were received, of which 160 were referred to the Housing Department for attention.

Until there is a great improvement in the housing situation within the Borough, the application of this part of the Housing Act is considered impracticable.

Housing Programme.

The policy under which the existing accommodation of all applicants for Council houses is inspected by the Sanitary Staff has continued throughout the year. The Sanitary inspectors made 1,022 visits for this purpose and detailed reports of the circumstances of each applicant were submitted to the Housing Department.

The question of the appointment of a Housing Manager is to receive consideration in the near future.

The following statement shows the position with regard to housing at the end of 1947, at which time 3,002 applications were outstanding.

STATEMENT SHOWING NUMBER OF FAMILIES AND PERSONS ACCOMMODATED BY THE HOUSING COMMITTEE TO 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

		Houses	Families	Persons
Council Houses	...	131	139	536
Prefabricated Houses	...	169	169	552
Requisitioned Properties	...	96	119	487
Total		396	427	1,575

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

A total of 200 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors to cowsheds, dairies and milk shops during 1947. No action was found necessary with regard to the condition of these premises which may be regarded as satisfactory.

REGISTRATIONS.

The accompanying table gives the total number of licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-43 :—

Licences issued by Kent County Council :

To produce Tuberculin tested milk	1
--	---

Licences issued by Local Authority :

To Pasteurise milk	4
To distribute Tuberculin tested milk	1
Dealers (bottling) licence to sell Tuberculin tested milk	1
To distribute Pasteurised milk not bottled on the premises	1

MILK SAMPLING.

106 samples of milk were submitted for examination and the following table summarises the results :—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin tested	4	2
Bulk samples	4	—

In addition, 96 samples of pasteurised and heat treated milk were taken with the following results :—

Class of milk	No. tested	Failed Phos- phatase test	Failed Methylene Blue test
Pasteurised	48	2	3
Heat treated	48	3	9

Meat and Other Foods.

During 1947, 761 visits were made by Inspectors to shops, stalls and other premises where food is sold, prepared or stored.

TABLE 8.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ..	1831	520	1632	6391	177
Number inspected	1831	520	1632	6391	177
All Diseases except Tuber- culosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	4	6	30	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	676	150	8	759	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	37%	30%	.86%	12.4%	9%
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	25	7	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	79	255	3	—	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5%	54%	1.3%	—	6%

Total Animals Killed and Inspected — 10,551.

There were no variations in the arrangements for slaughtering of animals than outlined in previous reports.

TABLE 9.
UN SOUND FOOD.

			Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
January	...	...	3	7	2	4	0
February	...	...	0	7	1	1	0
March	...	...	1	4	0	23	8
April	...	...	1	6	2	23	0
May	...	...	2	13	2	19	0
June	...	...	3	17	0	14	8
July	...	...	2	4	1	1	4
August	...	...	1	12	2	11	0
September	...	...	2	5	1	6	0
October	...	...	2	4	2	23	0
November	...	...	3	6	0	3	0
December	...	...	1	9	1	15	0
Total	...	...	25	18	3	4	4

TABLE 10.
TINNED GOODS, ETC.

			Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
January	...	...		5	1	25	8
February	...	...		5	3	26	8
March	...	...		4	0	7	8
April	...	...		4	0	10	12
May	...	...		18	3	13	0
June	...	...		11	0	19	0
July	...	...		15	3	24	0
August	...	...		13	3	27	0
September	...	...		12	0	18	0
October	...	...		5	1	16	0
November	...	...		7	2	27	0
December	...	...		3	1	26	0
Total	...	...	5	8	1	16	4

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

During the year 107 samples (74 Formal and 33 Informal) were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst.

TABLE 11.

Description of Sample.	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Almonds (Ground) ..	2	—	1	1
Brawn	—	1	—	1
Butter	—	1	—	1
Butter Drops	1	—	1	—
Browning	1	—	1	—
Coffee (Pure)	1	—	1	—
Coffee & Chicory	—	1	1	—
Carraway Seed	—	1	1	—
Camden Tablets	—	1	1	—
Cooking Fat	—	1	1	—
Cinnamon	—	1	1	—
Eucalyptus Oil	—	1	1	—
Flour Soya	1	—	1	—
Flour Self Raising	—	3	3	—
Gelatine	2	1	3	—
Ground Ginger	1	—	1	—
Gravy Powder	—	1	1	—
Horse Radish Cream	—	2	2	—
Ice Cream	2	—	2	—
Frostick Lemon Flavour	1	—	1	—
Icing Sugar	1	—	1	—
Jam	4	—	3	1
Jelly Crystals	—	1	1	—
Lemonade Crystals and Powder	2	—	2	—
Mineral Oil	—	1	1	—
Mustard Cream	—	1	1	—
Miscellaneous	—	4	4	—
Milk	42	2	42	2
"Onion Powder"	1	—	1	—
Paste Fish and Meat	1	3	4	—
Pepper	1	—	1	—
Potatoes Dried	1	—	1	—
Sausage	8	2	9	1
Salad Oil	—	1	1	—
Syrup (Lung)	—	1	1	—
Soup Powder	1	—	1	—
Tea	—	1	1	—
Vinegar	—	1	1	—

The Public Analyst's reports on the 44 samples of milk taken during different months of the year, show the average to be above the minimum standard and in every case free from preservative.

The average figures are Fat 3.41, Non-Fatty Solids 8.74, Total Solids 12.15,

TABLE 12.

Particulars of samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine and action taken :—

Sample No.	Article	Result of Analysis	Action	Result
354	Sausage	35% Meat	Letter of caution	
379	Ground Almond	Devoid of Almonds, was a substitute	Legal proceedings	Fined £5 £3 3s. costs
380	Jam	Only 67.7% Soluble Solids	Letter of caution	
384	Milk	Deficient in Fat 9 per cent.	Letter of caution	Follow up sample genuine
392	Milk	Deficient in Fat 10.6 per cent.	Letter of caution	Follow up sample genuine

PUBLIC HEALTH (Preservatives etc. in Food Regulations).

The following 78 samples were examined by the Public Analyst for the presence of preservatives or added colouring matter. All were passed as genuine.

Milk	...	...	...	...	44
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	2
Sausages	...	...	...	...	2
Paste Fish and Meat	...	...	...	...	4
Jam ...	...	...	...	...	4
Brawn	...	...	...	...	1
Gelatine	...	...	...	...	3
Soup Powder and Browning	...	...	...	...	2
Mustard Cream	...	...	...	...	1
Black Pudding	...	...	...	...	1
Jelly Crystals	...	...	...	...	1
Dessert Powder	...	...	...	...	1
Horseradish Cream	...	...	...	...	2
Butter ...	...	...	...	...	1
Icing Sugar ...	...	...	...	...	1
Lemonade Crystals	...	...	...	...	2
Onion Powder	...	...	...	...	1
Gravy Powder	...	...	...	...	1
Frizets	...	...	...	...	1
Coffee and Chicory	...	...	...	...	2
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream.

The following table gives particulars with regard to registration :

Manufacture and sale of ice cream	...	22
Storage and distribution	... ..	1
Sale of ice cream	... ..	93
Sale of pre-packed ice cream only	...	10

126

A total of 185 visits to these premises were made during the year and 33 samples submitted for examination by the Methylene Blue test. It is gratifying to report that those engaged in this trade in the Borough made every effort to maintain a satisfactory standard of hygiene in the manufacture, storage and distribution of this commodity.

Shellfish.

The Pegwell Bay (Shellfish) Regulations are still in force, but the bulk of shellfish comes from outside the Borough.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There has been no change during the year in the infectious diseases compulsorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health.

The total number of notifications received during 1947 was 525, as compared with 308 in 1946. Measles, Whooping Cough, Puerperal Pyrexia and Acute Poliomyelitis being responsible for the increase in the number of notifications.

TABLE 13.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Resident Deaths	AGE INCIDENCE.											
				0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65
Scarlet Fever ...	10	9	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	3	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	7	7	1	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	1	1	—	—	—
Measles ...	171	—	—	2	29	6	33	12	80	3	4	2	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	83	—	—	7	24	8	7	1	32	4	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	23	—	14*	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	8	5
Erysipelas ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	8	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	6	5	2	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Includes all forms

Diphtheria.

Seven cases of Diphtheria were notified during 1947, the corresponding number for the previous year being nine. None of the seven cases, which included two fatal cases, had previously been immunised.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of sessions held during the year and number of injections administered are shown in the following table :—

Number of sessions	...	...	...	52
Number of children who completed the full course :—				
Under 5 years of age	...	...	...	458
Over 5 years of age	...	...	...	40
Number of re-inforcing doses administered				158

Cancer.

The number of deaths certified as being due to cancer was 55, 32 male and 33 female, as compared with a total of 58, 30 male and 28 female, in 1946.

Tuberculosis.

During 1947, formal notifications under the Regulations were received in respect of 30 cases of respiratory tuberculosis and 14 non-respiratory cases.

In addition 30 cases were brought to the notice of the Department from the following sources :—

	Respiratory	Non-respiratory
Transfers from other areas ...	18	2
Restored to register ...	10	—

Cases of tuberculosis notified within the Borough are examined and treated at the Kent County Council Dispensary, South Eastern Road, Ramsgate.

The following table shows the number of primary notifications and also other cases coming to the notice of the Department from all sources for the first time during the year, together with the total number of deaths classified into age groups :—

TABLE 14.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—5	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
5—15	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	—
15—25	4	8	2	1	—	1	—	—
25—35	10	8	3	—	4	—	1	—
35—45	6	3	2	1	2	2	—	—
45—55	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	2	—	—	—	5	1	—	—
Over 65	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1
Total	27	21	11	5	12	5	3	1

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1947 was :—

	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory	227	231	458
Non-respiratory	94	105	199
	—	—	—
	321	336	657
	—	—	—

Scabies.

The arrangements for the treatment of this disease, described in previous reports, continued throughout the year unchanged. The following are details of cases treated :—

Adult males	29
Adult females	35
Children	57

Venereal Diseases.

During the year 95 new Ramsgate patients (62 male, 33 female) were treated at clinics provided by the Kent County Council. A total of 1,049 attendances were made by Ramsgate patients to the clinics during 1947.

Vaccination.

The Vaccination Officers for the Borough have kindly supplied the following information for the year :—

Total births registered locally ...	...	760
Children successfully vaccinated ...	...	272
Children insusceptible to vaccination ...	...	1
Number of certificates from conscientious objectors ...	...	227
Died unvaccinated ...	...	15
Postponed for medical certificate ...	...	1
Removed from district ...	...	33
Number not yet dealt with on 31.12.47 ...	...	211

PORT HEALTH REPORT, 1947.

In accordance with Article 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, the following report on the sanitary circumstances, sanitary administration and vital statistics are submitted for the year ending 31st December, 1947.

I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT.

TABLE A.

	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective	No. with I.D. on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector		
FOREIGN:						
Steamers	3	758	—	8	—	—
Motor*	15	1957	—	—	—	—
Sailing	109	1628	—	—	—	—
Fishing	71	811	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign ..	198	5154	—	8	—	—
COASTWISE:						
Steamers	133	37700	—	—	—	—
Motor*	604	10119	—	—	—	—
Sailing	16	998	—	—	—	—
Fishing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise ..	753	48817	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise	951	53971	—	8	—	—

* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers

During 1946, the corresponding figures were :—

Total Foreign	Number 144.	Tonnage 2,207
Total Coastwise ..	Number 445	Tonnage 13,301

There was a considerable increase in the number of yachts arriving from foreign ports during the year.

II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

TABLE B.

(a) **PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR.**

Number of Passengers	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	Transmigrants
Inwards ..	31	—	—	—
Outwards ..	30	—	—	—

The above incoming passengers included a Mayoral party from the towns of Calais, Dunkirk and Bolougne. In addition during the summer period, passengers were landed from London.

(b) **CARGO TRAFFIC.**

Imported cargoes comprised timber, practically all of which was of German origin and the ports of loading being either Hamburg, Rotterdam or ports of Sweden.

Foreign trade during the year was still below that of pre-war level.

III. WATER SUPPLY.

The source of supply is drawn from the town mains, both for the port and shipping entering the port. No Water Boats are in use.

IV. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS 1933 AND 1945.

The arrangements as detailed in previous reports remain unchanged.

TABLE C.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS.

No cases of infectious sickness were landed during the year.

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS DURING VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

No cases were dealt with in this way.

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

Periodic inspection and treatment is carried out, by the Corporation Rodent Operators, of ships, wharves, stores, etc., in the vicinity of the port. During the year 65 visits were made for inspection and treatment, and 679 rats were destroyed.

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

TABLE J.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF NUISANCES.

Nationality of Vessel	Number inspected during the year.	Defects of original construction	Structural defects through wear and tear	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health
British ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nations ..	8	—	—	—

VII. FOOD INSPECTION.

No food is imported into the port. The Pegwell Bay Shellfish Regulations are still in operation.

Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector for the year 1947

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting the following report, detailing the numerous and varied duties carried out by the Sanitary staff, including the supervision of the preparation, storage and distribution of all types of foodstuffs, the sanitation and hygiene of premises in which people work and live, and general sanitary administration.

To carry out efficiently these important duties, adequate staff is necessary.

It may be of interest to note that the Sanitary Inspectors are responsible for inspection of all animals passed through the two Ministry of Food Slaughterhouses. This meat is allocated to the Thanet Towns, catering for a population of approximately 87,000 people, plus a seasonal influx of many thousands.

I desire to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help, and to acknowledge with thanks, the loyal co-operation and efficient work of all the Staff.

Yours faithfully,

E. YOUNG,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE 15.
INSPECTIONS.

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	65
Animals, keeping of	...	...	...	...	...	32
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	26
Camping Sites and Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	11
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	881
Drainage—Land Charges	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	70
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	21
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	14
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	518

							41
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,022
Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	...	185
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Marine Stores, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Milkshops and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	189
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	213
Music and Dancing	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number inspected under Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Public Health Act and Other Acts, Regulations and Orders							12
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Refuse Receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Repairs and subsequent revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,739
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	203
Rooms measured	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Shipping	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	537
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	36

COMPLAINTS.

The number of complaints has considerably increased as compared with previous years.

1938	...	...	...	...	368
1945	...	...	...	...	855
1947	...	...	...	...	1,152

The lower standard of housing conditions in many cases being the cause of the increase in the number of complaints received.

These complaints must receive attention, thereby curtailing the full systematic inspection of other premises necessary under the Shops, Factories and Housing Acts, etc.

NOTICES SERVED ETC.

Preliminary notices served or letters written	...	...	419
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions	...	...	237
Statutory Notices served	...	...	12
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	7

WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH DRAINAGE AND HOUSING.

TABLE 16.

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	11
Cesspools filled in	...	...	...	...	1
Chimney stacks and flues repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	42
Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	38
External walls cement rendered	...	...	...	...	11
External walls repointed or repaired	...	...	...	...	19
Floors relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	101
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	36
Fresh air inlet valves fixed	...	...	...	...	4
Gully traps fixed	...	...	...	...	25
Handrails to staircase provided	...	...	...	...	1
Houses at which drains were repaired	...	...	...	...	79
Houses re-drained	...	...	...	...	15
Houses renovated	...	...	...	...	18
Inspection chambers built, new covers provided	...	...	...	...	24
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	206
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	145
New flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	26
New sinks and baths provided	...	...	...	...	100
Rain water pipes disconnected from drain	...	...	...	...	2
Rain water pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	10
Roof repaired	...	...	...	...	129
Rooms fumigated and cleansed for vermin	...	...	...	...	24
Sanitary bins provided	...	...	...	...	70
Sash cords renewed	...	...	...	...	48
Sink waste pipes fixed and trapped	...	...	...	...	62
Soil and vent pipes fixed and repaired	...	...	...	...	20
Stoves repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	35
W.C. pans fixed	...	...	...	...	231
Wallplaster and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	251
Walls treated with damp-proofing material	...	...	...	...	39
Water supply pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	44
Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	10
Yards paved or existing paving repaired	...	...	...	...	20

DISINFESTATION OF PERSONS AND CLOTHING.

As in previous years, the two baths at the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station, Broad Street, were used for the cleansing of verminous persons. As each person passed through the bathroom, their clothing and bedding etc., was fumigated in the disinfecting plant adjoining.

DISINFECTION AND VERMINOUS PREMISES.

One hundred rooms were disinfected after infectious diseases or on request.

Four hundred and forty nine sets of bedding were fumigated in the steam disinfector after infectious diseases, or because of vermin or other causes.

One hundred and forty five lots of surgical appliances were collected from the General Hospital and sterilised at the Disinfecting Station by arrangement with the Hospital Authority.

As in previous years, numerous requests from householders for assistance in dealing with various classes of insects, i.e., bugs, wasps, ants, fleas, flies and beetles, were received and advice was given regarding the use of various types of insecticides, either as a liquid powder or as fumigators.

Any verminous bedding, clothing, etc., was fumigated in the steam disinfector.

Number of houses found to be infested :—

Council houses	...	...	...	7
Others	...	...	...	8

Number of premises disinfested :—

Council houses	...	...	...	7
Others	...	...	...	8

Disinfestation of premises other than Council houses is carried out by local builders under the supervision of this Department.

RODENT CONTROL.

Rates and Mice Destruction Act, 1919 (Infestation Order, 1943).

The method of extermination employed are those recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Division).

The Council continue to participate in the Private Dwellings Scheme and receive 60 per cent of the cost of the Scheme from the Ministry.

I attended the quarterly meetings of the Workable Area Committee, consisting of representatives from Local Authorities in East Kent, where problems concerning rodent control were discussed.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1947.

Complaints of Rat and Mice Infestation	...	272
Complaints found by Rodent Operator	...	31

RATS :

Visits and re-visits to dwelling houses	...	1,808
Visits and re-visits to other premises	...	416
Number of rats estimated killed as per Ministry formula	... ..	7,340

Number of rats caught in traps	153
Number of rats caught on Dak boards ...	11
MICE :	
Premises cleared—Dwelling houses ...	49
Other premises ...	7

PRIVATE DWELLING SCHEME.

Infestations found—Rats	175
Mice	74
Visits and re-visits	970
Number of rats estimated killed ...	1,379

Special attention has been given to the Sewers, and it is estimated that 3,077 Rats were destroyed.

Various properties under control of the Local Authority, including Royal Harbour, Dust Destructor, Allotments, etc., were treated with satisfactory results.

FOOD PREMISES.

The supervision of these premises under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, entailed a total of 1,646 visits by the Sanitary Inspectors. Not all of these premises are required to be registered with the Local Authority under the provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, but there is close co-operation with the local Food Authority in Ramsgate and this results in all new applications for the establishment or transfer of food premises being quickly brought to the notice of the Health Department.

The Food Control Committee also consistently refuse to licence premises which are reported to them by the Health Department as being in any respect unsatisfactory, and this has resulted in a considerable improvement in both the restaurant and food-shop facilities in the town.

During the year, 30 new applications in respect of restaurants and snack bars were reported upon. Twenty nine new applications in respect of other food shops were also reported upon. In each case the Sanitary Inspectors were able to insist on the respective premises being properly fitted with all necessary equipment for the satisfactory operation of the particular business, in addition to attaining reasonable structural conditions, washing facilities (including both hot and cold water), sanitary accommodation, etc., under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, Public Health Act and Shops Act.